

XXIII. PRELIMINARY NOTE ON A NEW
GENUS OF PHYLACTOLÆMATOUS
POLYZOA.

By N. ANNANDALE, D.Sc., Superintendent, Indian Museum.

The first specimens of the new genus were sent to the Indian Museum by Major H. J. Walton, I.M.S., from Bulandshahr in the United Provinces, but others have recently been found in the outskirts of Calcutta by Mr. B. L. Chaudhuri and myself.

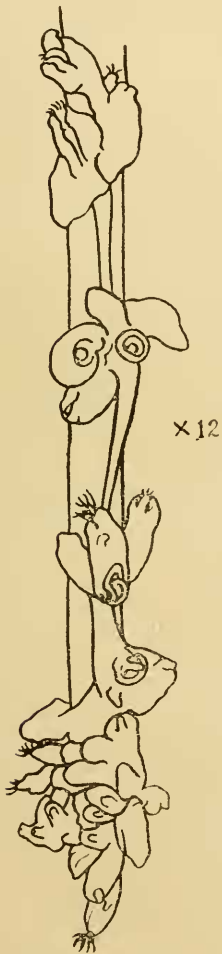
STOLELLA, gen. nov.

Phylactolæmatous Polyzoa with horse-shoe-shaped lophophores and small statoblasts (both free and fixed) resembling those of *Plumatella*; the zoarium consisting of groups of upright zoecia (or occasionally single zoecia) joined together by an adherent pseudostolon in a linear series, the pseudostolon consisting of a prolongation in one direction of the base of one of the zoecia; no gelatinous investment present.

Stolella indica, sp. nov.

Ectocyst of zoecia and pseudostolon soft, colourless and transparent but minutely roughened on the external surface.

Zoecia short, slender, more or less cask-shaped, generally more slender at the tip than at the base, emarginate at the distal end on one side and with a furrow running down from the emargination. Daughter zoecia arise as buds at the sides of a parent zoecium, the base of which is produced anteriorly into a tubular outgrowth of very variable length. This forms the pseudostolon, at the extremity of which a new parent zoecium is produced; it is generally more slender either at the distal or the proximal end than at the other, and in young colonies is often somewhat difficult to detect. The pseudostolon is not distinctly marked off from the zoecium.



Stolella indica on
stem of water plant.

Tentacles numbering 30 to 35, rather short, being stout and slightly clubbed at the tip.

Stomach short, abruptly truncated at the base.

Statoblasts.—Fixed statoblasts very variable in shape, sometimes almost circular, sometimes elongate, without external ornamentation, with a stout chitinous ring. Free statoblasts small, usually rather broad but variable in shape, oval or subrhomboidal, resembling those of *Plumatella punctata* in general appearance.

A full description of the species will be published later in a revision of the Freshwater Polyzoa of the Oriental Region now in progress.